

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the office action dated May 7, 2007.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-23 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lobiondo (U.S. Patent No. 5, 287,194) in view of Snipp (U.S. 5,699,495).

Independent claims 1, 11, 20, 21, 23, 26 and 27 have been amended to more particularly point out important aspects of the claimed embodiments of the present invention. These claims have been amended with terms that more clearly distinguish the first network and second network of these embodiments. These claims now comprise an element that “printing devices in the second network are not detectable by computing devices in said first network.” This element is not taught in the combination of Lobiondo and Snipp.

Lobiondo teaches a single-network system in which a system component acquires data regarding printers in the local network in which the component resides, which is now clearly distinguished from the presently claimed multiple-network system of these claims. Furthermore, Snipp is also a single-network system that does not comprise or teach a first network print system component acquiring data regarding second-network printers. Accordingly, the combination of Lobiondo and Snipp does not teach this claim element.

Dependent claims in this group depend on the amended independent claims and comprise all the limitations therein. Accordingly, these dependent claims are now allowable as they comprise an element not taught in the combination of Lobiondo and Snipp by dependence.

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Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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